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PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Gebrian et al

Docket: MN-9121A

Filed: August 8, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1743

Serial No.: 09/924,382

Examiner: Unknown

Title: Canister for Inventorying Identification Test Devices  
in a Random Access Microbiological Analyzer

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Notice of Omitted Items mailed January 17, 2002, prior to examination of the above referenced application, please amend the specification as follows. Clean form copies of the amended pages are attached.

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 14, line 6, please delete "FIG. 14" and substitute -- FIG. 14A -- therefor.

Page 14, line 7, please delete the entire sentence, beginning with "FIG. 14A".

Page 14, line 8, please delete "FIG. 14" and substitute -- FIG. 14A -- therefor.

Page 14, line 9, please delete "FIGs. 15A-M" and substitute -- FIGs. 15A-H and 15J-M -- therefor.

Page 16, line 3, please delete "FIG. 14" and substitute -- FIG. 14A -- therefor.

Page 36, line 9, please delete "FIG. 14" and substitute -- FIG. 14A -- therefor.

Page 36, line 10, please delete "FIG. 14D" and substitute -- FIG. 14B -- therefor.

Page 37, line 14, please delete "FIGs. 15A-M" and substitute -- FIGs. 15A-H and 15J-M -- therefor.

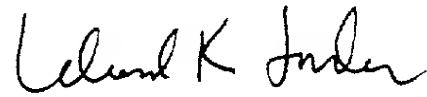
Page 40, line 4, at the end of the paragraph, please insert the phrase - - (For purposes of clarity, there is no FIG. 15I.) --.

REMARKS

For purposes of clarity, there is no FIG. 15 "I" in the application because, depending upon the font in which the letter "I" is printed, there may be confusion as to the meaning of "I".

Applicant believes that no fee is due regarding this Preliminary Amendment; however, if any fee is due, please charge the fee or any additional amount required for filing this document to our Deposit Account No. 04-0010.

Respectfully submitted,



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